Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 10 and 17 as follows, and please cancel claims 41-43 and 51-53 without prejudice to continued prosecution. The claims and their status are shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a therapeutic agent for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is a therapeutic agent for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~.

2-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for an apoptosis-inducing agent for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is an apoptosis-inducing agent for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~.

11-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for an anticancer agent potentiator for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is an anticancer agent potentiator for pancreatic cancer ~~solid tumor~~.

18-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

51-53. (Canceled)